

April 18, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Midland Daily News: Supreme Court visits Midland, students for Law Day

"Law Day came to Midland early this year, with a visit by the Michigan Supreme Court and an actual court hearing in front of about 800 Midland County high school students. The event took place Wednesday at the Midland Center for the Arts, complete with security screening and a court crier, as part of what is known as the Community Connections Program. Law Day usually takes place May 1 to celebrate the rule of law in the United States."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Hon. Stephen P. Carras appointed chief judge of Midland courts (second article)

"Hon. Stephen P. Carras, a judge of the 75th District Court in Midland, will serve as chief judge of Midland County's circuit, probate, and district courts, the Michigan Supreme Court announced [Tuesday]. Carras previously served as chief judge pro tem of the Midland courts."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Midland Daily News: Carras appointed chief judge of Midland courts

[Full story](#)

Hon. Stephen P. Carras appointed chief judge of Midland courts

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: Sandra Layne sentenced to 20-40 years in death of grandson

"West Bloomfield grandmother Sandra Layne will spend 20 to 40 years in prison for shooting her grandson to death, the equivalent of a life sentence for the 75-year-old retired teacher. Layne, shackled in orange jail garb and surrounded by deputies, was sentenced this afternoon in Oakland County Circuit Court."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Messy, tragic story of West Bloomfield grandmother in prison for killing grandson

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Sentencing delayed for grandmother convicted of drowning 4-year-old

"... Terry Borgia, 63, was to be sentenced to life in prison, but Macomb County Circuit Judge Peter Maceroni said he first wanted to hear the motion for a new trial filed earlier this month by Borgia's attorney, Mark Haddad."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: New trial request delays grandma's sentencing (second article)

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Cleanup continues after fire in Macomb County administration building

"... With IT, phone and email down, Macomb County Circuit Court's case management system, 'the backbone of everything we do,' also is down, Court Administrator Jennifer Phillips said. Employees are working the old-fashioned way - by hand - doing paper processing. They're also buying every flash drive available to move documents around, she said. One concern is getting a backup for the video recording system."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Old Macomb County building closed indefinitely after fire

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Macomb County's computers, phones knocked out by fire

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Ex-Highland Park EM to repay \$264K, avoid prison

"Former Highland Park emergency financial manager Arthur Blackwell II will avoid jail time, but a Wayne County judge ordered him Wednesday to repay the \$264,000 that he was accusing of stealing from the cash-strapped city over four years and remain on probation until he pays up."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: Appeals court overturns conviction of Flint man for role in 2009 shooting death

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has reversed the conviction of a Flint man accused in the 2009 shooting death of Lennon Johnson Jr. outside Flint nightclub. The court issued its ruling Tuesday, April 16, saying that Shawn D. Gardner had ineffective counsel during his 2011 trial."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Judges reject complaint that Ford Airport erred in approving \$6.8 million air center

"A three-judge appeals panel has affirmed a Kent County judge's 2012 ruling that Gerald R. Ford International Airport's Board of Directors did not improperly approve a \$6.8 million private air center. In a decision published this week, the judges denied an appeal of that ruling by Northern Air and Grand Rapids Air Center, two private air centers already operating at the airport."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Judge Margaret Schaeffer remembered as loving mom and accomplished woman

"... [Chris] Skoglund, and her brother, Bill Schaeffer, remembered their mother [Margaret Schaeffer] at a Tuesday afternoon service at the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, the church she attended and at which she volunteered, studied the Bible and studied spirituality. Schaeffer, 92, died April 11 at her Farmington Hills home where she lived for 62 years."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Justice Kelly to receive WLAM's Coleman Award

"After 24 years, Justice Marilyn Kelly recently retired from the Supreme Court. She was Chief Justice from 2009-2011. In 2010, she and James L. Ryan, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit, established the Michigan Judicial Selection Task Force."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: 'Sexting' sentence set - after 3 tries

"Since pleading guilty three years ago in a 'sexting' case, a 23-year-old Eaton Rapids man has seen his sentence change multiple times. The state Court of Appeals twice threw out a two-year prison term imposed by now-retired Eaton County Circuit Judge Calvin Osterhaven, which was nearly two years shorter than state sentencing guidelines required."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Supreme Court case about a little known law could be a big deal for Michigan's kids

"[Tuesday], the United States Supreme Court heard oral arguments on a case involving the Indian Child Welfare Act. The law is designed to make sure Native American children in the child welfare system stay connected with their tribes. The court's decision will affect Michigan, as the state recently passed a stronger version of Indian Child Welfare Act."

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Threat of flood closing Midland Public Schools, Midland County Courthouse, Northwood on Friday

"A strong storm and expected flooding will close schools and the Midland County Courthouse in downtown Midland on Friday. Midland County is currently under a tornado watch and Flood warning.... Employees who work at the courthouse are not to report to work on Friday, according to an update from Midland County 911."

[Full story](#)

The Morning Sun: Judge seals key document in Clare murder case

"A Clare County judge on Wednesday approved a motion to seal a portion of a court document in the Floyd Odell Dennis murder case. After noting that Clare County Prosecutor Michelle Ambrozaitis and a defense attorney representing Oanh Kieu Bass both wanted a portion of the affidavit supporting the arrest warrant sealed, 80th District Judge Joshua Farrell said he found cause to keep part of the court document sealed prior to trial."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: Parts of affidavit sealed after prosecutor admits giving it to media

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Women, Health and Education: Panel looks at 'What Works in African Development'

"A panel discussion on 'What Works in African Development: Women, Health and Education' took place on Thursday, April 4, at Cranbrook's Performing Arts Center in Bloomfield Hills. The panel was moderated by Michigan Department of Human Services Director Maura Corrigan, former chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Judge Tabbey to speak

"Washtenaw County's 14A District Court Chief Judge Kirk Tabbey will be the featured speaker at a lunch meeting from noon to 1 p.m. on Wed., May 1 at 200 N. Main, Ann Arbor. Tabbey's talk is titled, 'Voor Dire: The Dos and Don'ts of Jury Selection'. The event is sponsored by the Washtenaw County Bar Association's Criminal Law Section."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Veterans Treatment Court keeps focus on healing rather than incarceration

"Until recently, Marvin Olsen was a fixture on the streets of Ann Arbor, as he pushed his shopping cart full of possessions from one stopping point to the next. Last fall, when he was charged with a non-violent crime, the Vietnam veteran was admitted to the new Washtenaw County Veterans Treatment Court."

[Full story](#)